Amendment to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. – 7. (canceled).

8. (currently amended): A method of maintaining and managing a plurality of power generating facilities which supply power to arbitrary power systems in the same power network, comprising the steps of:

receiving information of a failure which has occurred in at least one of said power generating facilities, through communication means, according to operation information of said power generating facilities,

selecting a repairing period and procedure for said failure, from repairing periods and procedures which are predetermined according to levels of failures, and

outputting an instruction to control the operation of at least one of said power generating facilities other than said power generating facility in which said failure has occurred, according to said selected repairing period and procedure.

9. - 11. (canceled).

12. (currently amended): An operation and management system for power generating facilities which maintains and manages a plurality of power generating facilities which supply power to arbitrary power systems in the same power network, comprising:

a database storing operation data obtained while said power generating facilities are in normal operating states and operation data obtained while said power generating facilities are in abnormal states,

an error supervision/diagnosis means which compares actual operation data of said power generating facilities with operation data stored in said database, checks for any operation error, and outputs failure information when finding an operation error,

a fault level judge means which determines a level of said failure from said output failure information, and

an operation scheduling means which shows a predetermined repairing period and procedure selected according to said determined failure level.

13. (currently amended): A method of maintaining and managing a plurality of power generating facilities which supply power to arbitrary power systems in the same system power network comprising the steps of:

receiving information of a failure which has occurred in at least one of said power generating facilities, through communication means, according to elapsed

characteristic information about operation states and apparatuses ~~which is~~ during

operation ~~information~~ of said power generating facilities,

selecting a repairing period and procedure for said failure, from ~~requiring~~

repairing periods and procedures which are predetermined according to levels of

failures, and

controlling a rise in loads of other than said power generating facility, when a

load following is able to ~~perform~~ be performed according to at least one of said

power generating facilities other than said power generating facility during an

instruction to control the operation of at least one of said power generating facilities

other than said power generating facility in which said failure has occurred,

according to said selected repairing period and procedure.

14. (currently amended): A method of maintaining and managing a plurality

of power generating facilities ~~according to claim 8,~~ which supply power to arbitrary

power systems in the same power network, comprising the steps of:

receiving information of a failure which has occurred in at least one of said

power generating facilities, through communication means, according to operation

information of said power generating facilities,

selecting a repairing period and procedure for said failure, from repairing

periods and procedures which are predetermined according to levels of failures, and

outputting an instruction to control the operation of at least one of said power

generating facilities other than said power generating facility in which said failure has

occurred, according to said selected repairing period and procedure, and wherein

4

when said failure is a heavy failure, said failure power generating facility is interrupted according to a plant automatic interrupting function, and

from said plant automatic interrupting function, interrupting information of said failure generating facility is transmitted to a scheduling function.

15. (currently amended): An operation and management system for power generating facilities ~~according to claim 12 further comprising:~~ which maintains and manages a plurality of power generating facilities which supply power to arbitrary power systems in the same power network, comprising:

a database storing operation data obtained while said power generating facilities are in normal operating states and operation data obtained while said power generating facilities are in abnormal states,

an error supervision/diagnosis means which compares actual operation data of said power generating facilities with operation data stored in said database, checks for any operation error, and outputs failure information when finding an operation error,

a fault level judge means which determines a level of failure from said output failure information, and

an operation scheduling means which shows a predetermined repairing period and procedure selected according to said determined failure level,

a plant automatic interrupting function for instructing an interruption of said failure generating facility, when said failure ~~degree~~ is a heavy failure, and

5

a scheduling function for receiving interruption information of said failure generating facility from said plant automatic interrupting function.

16. (currently amended): An operation and management system for power generating facilities ~~according to claim 12 further comprising:~~ which maintains and manages a plurality of power generating facilities which supply power to arbitrary power systems in the same power network, comprising:

a database storing operation data obtained while said power generating facilities are in normal operating states and operation data obtained while said power generating facilities are in abnormal states,

an error supervision/diagnosis means which compares actual operation data of said power generating facilities with operation data stored in said database, checks for any operation error, and outputs failure information when finding an operation error,

· a fault level judge means which determines a level of failure from said output failure information,

an operation scheduling means which shows a predetermined repairing period and procedure selected according to said determined failure level,

a plant automatic interrupting function for instructing an interruption of said failure generating facility, when said failure ~~degree~~ is a heavy failure, and

an operation state judging means in the same system for judging whether or not a load following is able to ~~perform~~ be performed in the same system of said power generating facility.

17. (currently amended): An operation and management system for power generating facilities ~~according to claim 12 further comprising:~~ which maintains and manages a plurality of power generating facilities which supply power to arbitrary power systems in the same power network, comprising:

a database storing operation data obtained while said power generating facilities are in normal operating states and operation data obtained while said power generating facilities are in abnormal states,

an error supervision/diagnosis means which compares actual operation data of said power generating facilities with operation data stored in said database, checks for any operation error, and outputs failure information when finding an operation error,

a fault level judge means which determines a level of failure from said output failure information,

an operation scheduling means which shows a predetermined repairing period and procedure selected according to said determined failure level,

a plant automatic interrupting function for instructing an interruption of said failure generating facility, when said failure ~~degree~~ is a heavy failure,

an operation state judging means in the same system for judging whether or not a load following is able to ~~perform~~ be performed in the same system of said power generating facility, and

an operation state judging means in another same system for judging whether or not a load following is able to perform in said another system of said power generating facility.